

Provider Health and Safety Committee Meeting
May 17, 2012
OEMS, 1041 Technology Park Drive, Glen Allen, VA

Members Present:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:
Brian Hricik , Chair	Karen Owens	Dale Wagoner, State EMS Advisory Board
Wayne Myers , VAVRS	Jim Nogle	
Steve Elliott , Thomas Jefferson EMS Council		
Anita Ashby		
Jack Sullivan		
Bryan McRay , VAGEMSA		
Tim Hansbrough , Department of Fire Programs		

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	Meeting Called to Order at 1:30 a.m.	
Approval of Meeting Minutes	Motion to approve the meeting minutes made by Bryan McRay, second by Steve Elliott. Meeting minutes approved unanimously	
Introductions of Members:	<p>Brian Hircik – committee Chair, Battalion Chief with Alexandria, President of NoVa EMS Council</p> <p>Steve Elliott – Representing Thomas Jefferson EMS Council, Battalion Chief with Albemarle County Fire and Rescue</p> <p>Anita Ashby – member of Governor’s Advisory Board, Works for Wellmont Health Systems, Oversees two aircraft</p> <p>Jack Sullivan – career safety professional, 25 years of fire and EMS experience, involved with firefighter and EMS safety and health related to roadway safety</p> <p>Bryan McRay Director of Safety and Risk Management , representing VAGEMSA</p> <p>Karen Owens – Emergency Operations Assistant Manager, OEMS</p> <p>Jim Nogle – Emergency Operations Manager, OEMS</p> <p>Wayne Myers – Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads</p> <p>Dale Wagoner – State EMS Advisory Board</p> <p>Tim Hansborough – Virginia Department of Fire Programs</p>	
Old Business	<p>Website Update - Karen Owens presented the new website to the members of the committee. She reminded them that any links that the committee felt would be beneficial to the page should be sent to her to be added.</p> <p>Near Miss/LODD/Injury Reporting Update – Karen reported back to the committee that the Field Bridge program would only allow each individual agency to add a reporting block for injuries/fatalities during response. So, while that isn’t a possibility there is additional possibility regarding collection of EMS LODD/Near-Miss incidents. Jack stated that there are items out there on the National scope, but nothing regional.</p> <p>Bryan reported on a system that is currently out there: E.V.E.N.T. – EMS Voluntary Event Notification Tool. This is a group effort focused on collecting data on EMS incidents. After reviewing the website the committee discussed contacting the main supporters of the website to see how they are using the data and what Virginia can do to become a participating organization.</p>	<p>Karen Owens will contact the E.V.E.N.T. website organizers and see what can be done to get Virginia involved in the system.</p> <p>Jack Sullivan will send information on the Pennsylvania system to Karen who will share it with committee members</p>

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	<p>Jack – Reported that Pennsylvania has a reporting program that is mandated and in code. It may provide information that can be utilized to support a system in Virginia.</p> <p>Dale stated that he believes that Virginia has reporting mandates. The problem is what information is being gathered and what is being done with it.</p>	
New Business	<p>Bryan asked if many people were facing an issue with chemical suicides and their impact on providers. Bryan stated that he has had two patients (thankfully without provider exposure). He asked if there is a possibility of creating a reporting system that would allow for notification. The concern expressed was that those who have signed up to receive the listserve notices are not those who should receive it (i.e. administrative instead of operations). Anita mentioned that some of the surrounding states have an application that allows them to send alerts to phones. Bryan asked for a point of contact</p> <p>Bryan also asked whether or not anyone has had a problem with bed bugs in their agency's facilities or equipment. Thankfully no one in the committee could report such a thing. However, there is a large issue on the information that is being shared with EMS providers to assist with maintaining health and hygiene. The concern of course is that there is a mix of information and determining which is the best information may be hard. Jim mentioned the potential of placing an article in the newsletter. The CDC has some of the most reliable information. We will also look at Kathy West for additional information.</p> <p>The committee turned the discussion to training courses that are available to push the safety initiative. Bryan talked about the NAEMT Safety Officer Course. This program is currently being taught through Richmond Ambulance Authority instructors and they have the ability to conduct train-the-trainers. OEMS will work with Bryan to conduct a training to clear instructors. The desire is to work towards having a designated Safety Officer at every licensed agency.</p> <p>Additionally discussion were held about how to determine which Safety courses meet the expectations of the committee. Discussions focused on specific objectives. The NAEMT Course provides a good starting point:</p> <p><u>Objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crew resource management Emergency vehicle safety Scene operations Patient handling Patient, practitioner and bystander safety Personal health (expansion on more topics under personal health) Infection control Workplace Violence <p>Jack mentioned that a great way to target providers is to utilize the online learning management systems available to the state. He mentioned doing a module for each topic that is an hour in length and can be taken on its own time.</p> <p>Brian H. tasked the committee with determining the appropriate objectives for the training courses and looking at</p>	<p>Anita – share a point of contact for the other state's alerting systems</p> <p>Karen – Will work with Bryan to schedule a training course</p>

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	<p>what is already available out there, or creating new courses as necessary.</p> <p>Karen mentioned that the committee also needs to remember that we need to provide support to the providers for the stressors they face at home (not just those they face on-the-job. Brian H. stated that he would arrange for an individual who works with an agency to present to the committee as to why the training is important and what topics they focus on.</p>	
Next Scheduled Meeting:	Next scheduled meeting is August 16, 2012 at 13:30. The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza on West Broad Street. Additional information will be sent out closer to the meeting date.	
Adjournment:	Meeting adjourned at 14:43	